

# Cardiovascular Health in Missouri



The heart of the matter...

## Trends and Disparities



Missouri ranks 18th in the nation for deaths attributed to stroke.



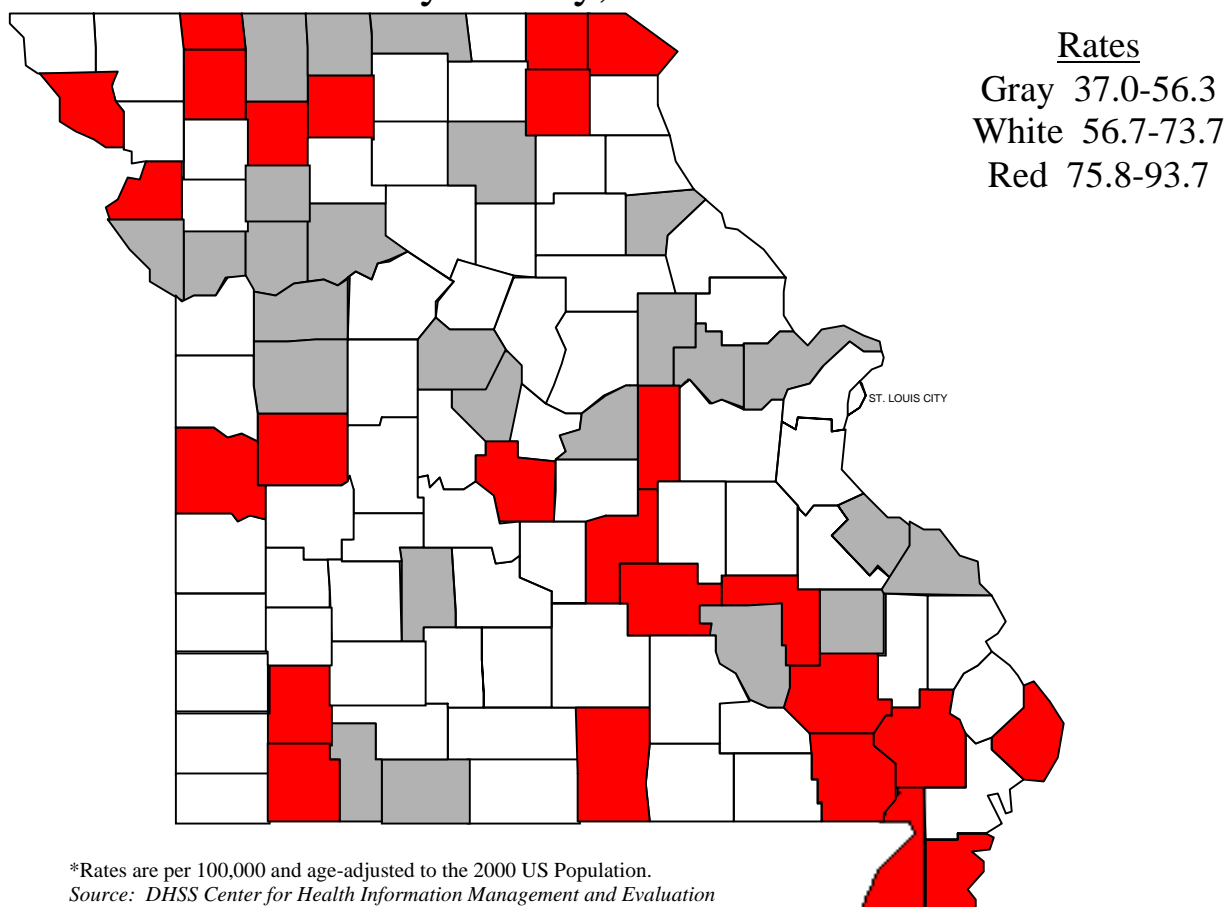
Serious cardiovascular health disparities exist for minorities in Missouri. African Americans have a stroke death rate 1.25 times higher than whites.



Hypertension (high blood pressure) is the leading risk factor for stroke. In 2003, over 25% of Missouri adults had been told they have hypertension. The hypertension rate among African Americans is higher than among whites

The statewide Stroke death rate is 64.3 per 100,000. There are stark differences among the counties. The range extends from a low of 37.0 in Harrison County to 93.7 in Worth County.

## Stroke Death Rates by County, 1994-2003\*



\*Rates are per 100,000 and age-adjusted to the 2000 US Population.  
 Source: DHSS Center for Health Information Management and Evaluation